

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 221153

EXDIS - FROM HOLBROOKE FOR AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, SN

SUBJECT: WASHINGTON VISIT PRIME MINISTER LEE KUAN YEW

REF: A. SINGAPORE 3867 B. SINGAPORE 3982

1. WE CONCUR COMPLETELY WITH YOUR ASSESSMENT IMPORTANCE
LEE VISIT OUTLINED REF (B) AND WE HAVE BEEN KEEPING CON-
STANTLY IN FOREFRONT OF OUR PLANNING EFFORTS THE NEED
TO MAKE HIS VISIT FULLY COMPARABLE TO THAT OF HUSSEIN.
OUR OBJECTIVES ARE TO SEE THAT (A) THAT LEE HAS FULLEST
POSSIBLE ACCESS TO TOP ADMINISTRATION, CONGRESSIONAL, AND
NON-OFFICIAL PERSONAGES ALONG LINES YOU SUGGESTED REF (A)
AUGMENTED BY VIEWS SINGAPORE EMBASSY HERE AND OUR OWN
IMPUTS, AND (B) THAT A TRULY BENEFICIAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS
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OCCURS ON ALL MAJOR ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE TO LEE. IN
ADDITION, WE GENUINELY DESIRE SOLICIT LEE'S VIEWS RE MAJOR
INTERNATIONAL ISSUES ESPECIALLY THOSE OF HIS REGION. HE
HAS BEEN A STEADY FRIEND AND IS A SEASONAL POLITICAL
VETERAN WHOSE OPINIONS WE VALUE. IN CONJUNCTION WITH THIS
WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR VIEWS ON ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION PER
(PARA 7 REF B) AT YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE IN ORDER ADVISE

THOSE WHO WILL BE SEEING LEE.

2. WE TRUST THAT LEE WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED WITH VISIT.

DISCUSSIONS WITH PRESIDENT WILL NECESSARILY BE LIMITED TO HALF HOUR, BUT WE WILL MAKE STRONG PITCH TO ARRANGE FULL REVIEW WITH BRZEZINSKI, WITH SECRETARY, AND OTHER SENIOR OFFICIALS. WE HAVE OBTAINED APPROVAL FOR BLAIR HOUSE (TWO NIGHTS OCT. 6 AND 7) AND MILITARY HONORS ON ARRIVAL AT WHITE HOUSE. WE HAVE REQUESTED THAT VICE PRESIDENT HOST LUNCH ON OCT. 7. IF THIS IS NOT POSSIBLE, WE BELIEVE SECRETARY WILL BE ABLE HOST LUNCH OR DINNER. (THIS IS COMPLICATED BY HIS UNGA SCHEDULE BUT SHOULD NOT BE IMPOSSIBLE). THIS IS FULLY COMPARABLE TO HUSSEIN ON VISIT AND SHOULD REMOVE POSSIBLE PROBLEM OF HIS MAKING INVIDIOUS COMPARISON OR OTHERWISE FEELING NEGLECTED.

3. SITUATION STILL QUITE FLUID RE APPOINTMENTS AT THIS POINT, AND WE DO NOT WISH TO ADVISE GOS OF DETAILS UNTIL SCHEDULE IS FIRM. THIS WE BELIEVE WILL REDUCE POSSIBILITY OF DISAPPOINTMENT AND MISUNDERSTANDING SHOULD DETAILS OF SCHEDULE CHANGE. CONSEQUENTLY WE PROPOSE USING SINGAPORE'S EMBASSY HERE AS THE PRIMARY OFFICIAL CHANNEL FOR DISCUSSING VISIT ARRANGEMENTS AS HAS BEEN DONE FOR HUSSEIN ONN VISIT. WE WILL OF COURSE KEEP YOU FULLY INFORMED OF SCHEDULE AS IT DEVELOPS. VANCE
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